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March 6, 2002

Hon. Assistant Director for Patents
Box Patent Appln
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: New U.S. Divisional Patent Application
Applicant(s): TAKAKURA et al.
Title: THERMOSTABLE PROTEASE
Atty's Docket: TAKAKURA=6A

Sir:

Attached herewith is the above-identified application for Letters Patent including:

- ☐ Application Data Sheet
- ☒ Specification (54 pages), claims (3 pages), sequence listing (25 pages) and abstract (1 page)
- ☒ 7 Sheets Drawings (Figures 1-7)
- ☒ FORMAL ☐ Informal
- ☒ Declaration and Power of Attorney (2 page(s))
- ☐ Newly executed ☒ Copy from prior application no. 09/445,472
- ☒ Preliminary Amendment
- ☐ Computer-readable Sequence Listing
- ☐ Supplemental Preliminary Amendment
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement with SB/08A and ___ references
- ☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 C.F.R. §1.27.
- ☐ A check (check no. _____) in the amount of \$_____ to cover:
- ☒ Credit Card Payment Form, PTO-2038, authorizing payment in the amount of \$740.00 to cover:
- ☒ The filing fee calculated as follows (including any preliminary amendment for entry prior to calculation of the filing fee):

CLAIMS AS FILED				
FOR	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	BASIC FEE \$ 740.00
TOTAL CLAIMS	19 - 20	= 0	x 18	.00
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	3 - 3	= 0	x 80	--
<input type="checkbox"/> Multiple Dependent Claim Presented			+ 270	
<input type="checkbox"/> Reduction of 1/2 for Small Entity				
TOTAL FILING FEE				\$ 740.00

- ☐ Any additional fee required by the filing of an enclosed preliminary or supplemental preliminary amendment (for entry after calculation of the filing fee) has been calculated as shown below:

	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	CALCULATION
TOTAL		-	=	x 18	
INDEP.		-	=	x 80	
<input type="checkbox"/> Multiple Dependent Claim Presented				+ 270	
<input type="checkbox"/> Reduction by 1/2 for Small Entity					
Total Additional Fee =					

- ☐ Other Fees: _____.
- ☐ Other Attachments: _____.
- ☒ Return Receipt Postcard (in duplicate)

The following statements are applicable:

- ☐ Applicant hereby requests that this application **not** be published pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §122(a). It is certified on behalf of applicant that the invention disclosed in the application has not been and will not be the subject of an application filed in another country, or under a multilateral international agreement, that requires publication of applications 18 months after filing.
- ☒ The benefit under 35 USC §119 is claimed of the filing date of:
Application No. 151969/1997 in Japan on June 10, 1997. A certified copy of said priority document was transmitted by the International Bureau to the file of the parent application, since said parent case is a national phase of a PCT application.
- ☐ The present application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Appln. No. 60/_____, filed ____.
- ☒ The present application is a ☐ Continuation ☒ Division ☐ Continuation-in-Part of prior Application No. 09/445,472, filed December 8, 1999, which is a 371 national stage application of PCT/JP98/02465 in Japan filed June 4, 1998.
- ☐ Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:
☐ --This is a continuation/division/continuation-in-part of copending parent application Serial No. _____, filed _____.--
☐ --The present application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Appln. No. 60/_____, filed _____.--
☐ --The present application is the national stage under 35 U.S.C. §371 of international application _____ which designated the United States.--
- ☒ The paper copy of the Sequence Listing in this application is identical to the computer-readable copy of the Sequence Listing filed in application no. 09/445,472, filed December 8, 1999. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.821(e), please use the last-filed computer readable form filed in that application as the computer readable form for the instant application. It is understood that the Patent and Trademark Office will make the necessary change in application number and filing date for the instant application. A paper copy of the Sequence Listing is included in the originally-filed specification of the instant application (or included in a separately filed preliminary amendment for incorporation into the specification).

In re of

- [X] Incorporation By Reference. The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a copy of the oath or declaration is supplied herewith, is considered as being part of the disclosure of the accompanying application and is hereby incorporated by reference therein.
- [] A signed statement deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application is attached.
- [X] The prior application was assigned to: Takara Shuzo Co., Ltd., 609, Takenaka-cho, Fushimi-ku
Kyoto-shi, Kyoto 612 JAPAN
- [X] Certain documents were previously cited or submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in the following prior application 09/445,472, which is relied upon under 35 USC §120. Applicants identify these documents by attaching hereto a form PTO-1449 listing these documents, and request that they be considered and made of record in accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(d). Per Section 1.98(d), copies of these documents need not be filed in this application.
- [X] As in the parent application 09/445,472, please associate the present application with **Customer No. 001444** and recognize only the practitioners associated therewith.
- [X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-4035:
- [X] Any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR §1.16.
- [X] Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR §1.17.
- [X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees, based on any paper filed during the pendency of this application or any CPA thereof, to effect any amendment, petition, or other action requested in said paper or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-4035:
- [X] Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR §1.17.
- [] The issue fee set in 37 CFR §1.18 at or before mailing the Notice of Allowance, pursuant to 37 CFR §1.311(b).
- [X] Any filing fees under 37 CFR §1.16 for presentation of extra claims.
- [X] If a paper is untimely filed in this or any CPA thereof by Applicant(s), the Commissioner is hereby petitioned under 37 CFR. §1.136(a) for the minimum extension of time required to make said paper timely. In the event a petition for extension of time is made under the provisions of this paragraph, the Commissioner is hereby requested to charge any fee required under 37 CFR §1.17 to Deposit Account 02-4035.
- [X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit any overpayment of fees accompanying this paper to Deposit Account No. 02-4035.

Respectfully submitted,

BROWDY AND NEIMARK, P.L.L.C.

By: 

Allen C. Yun

Registration No. 37,971

ACY:pr